

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 144728
ORIGIN NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 SSM-05 SIG-03
PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-20 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12 EB-08 /135 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:WBHARRIS:LM
APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN
PA/PRS - MR. CARTER
H - MR. FLATEN
SSM - MR. MC ANDREW
NEA/IAI - MR. SMITH
NEA/ARN - MR. DRAPER
NEA/EGY - MR. MARTHINSEN
NEA/ARP - MR. TWINAM

-----105554 080140Z /14

O 072320Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION SINAI
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
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PAGE 02 STATE 144728

USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
USCINCEUR
DOD
JCS WASHDC 0000
CIA WASHDC 0000
USICA
NSC WASHDC 0000
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS POUCH

UNCLAS STATE 144728

CINCEUR FOR POLAD, TEL AVIV FOR PAO, DELIVER BY 9 A.M.

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - JUNE 7

1. FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE
EXCERPTS FROM DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING FOR JUNE 7, 1978.
FYI ONLY, SPOKESMAN TODAY WAS HODDING CARTER III.

Q. DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT, DOES THE ADMINISTRATION,
FIND PRESIDENT SADAT'S APPARENT REVIVAL OF THE
WAR OPTION TO BE HELPFUL TO THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS?
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PAGE 03 STATE 144728

A. I GUESS I HAVE TO START OFF BY SAYING WE DON'T FEEL
THAT HE HAS RAISED A WAR OPTION. HE HAS MADE A REFERENCE
TO THE POSSIBILITY IF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS BROKE DOWN.
HIS COMMITMENT TO THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS, WE THINK, HAS
BEEN EXPRESSED REPEATEDLY. HE IS STILL ENGAGED IN
THE PEACE EFFORT. WE HAVE NO REASON WHATSOEVER TO
DOUBT THAT HE CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS TO
REACH A COMPREHENSIVE PEACE SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE
EAST.

Q. HAS AMBASSADOR EILTS OR ANYBODY ELSE, EXPLORED
WITH THE EGYPTIANS IN A WAY THAT YOU CAN SHARE WITH

US, WHAT SURPRISE HE HAS IN STORE FOR THE WORLD,
I THINK ON JULY 23, WAS HIS SURPRISE DATE?

A. I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS.

Q. YESTERDAY I ASKED YOU A QUESTION ABOUT THE
EXPLOITATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES IN THE SINAI, AND
TODAY THERE IS A LITTLE SEGMENT ADDED TO IT THAT

THE CAIRO RADIO IS REPORTING THAT SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE HAS GIVEN A LETTER TO THE EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER IN WHICH IT IS STATED THAT THE UNITED STATES REJECTS ISRAEL'S EXPLOITATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. AND THE LETTER SAYS THAT THE U.S. SUPPORTS THE DECISION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND THAT IT ANNOUNCED IT IN 1967, AND THAT THE U.S. PROMISED TO HOLD CONTACTS WITH THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT TO PROMPT IT TO STOP SUCH ACTIVITIES.

A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS. WAS THE LETTER HANDED? CAN YOU TELL US WHAT THE POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS? AND WERE THESE CONTACTS WITH THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT ALREADY HELD?
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PAGE 04 STATE 144728

A. FIRST, I HARDLY EVER FEEL CONSTRAINED OR IMPELLED BY NEWS REPORTS ANYWHERE TO START SAYING WHAT WE DO OR DON'T DO DIPLOMATICALLY.

SECOND, THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION I TOOK YESTERDAY WAS EITHER POSTED OR SHOULD HAVE BEEN POSTED. IT IS ALSO HERE AND I WILL READ IT.

AS WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY SAID, OUR POSITION IS THAT THE DEVELOPMENT AND EXPLOITATION OF NEW OIL FIELDS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES IS UNPRECEDENTED AND GOES BEYOND THE LEGAL AUTHORITY OF A BELLIGERENT OCCUPANT.

FURTHER, EVEN PREVIOUSLY DEVELOPED MINERAL RESOURCES OF OCCUPIED TERRITORY CANNOT BE USED FOR PURPOSES BEYOND THE NEEDS OF THE OCCUPATION.

I THINK YOU AND I WENT AROUND THIS ONE THE LAST TIME THERE WAS A FLAP ON THIS. IT IS A REITERATION OF POLICY.

THE QUESTION, DID THE SECRETARY AGREE WITH THE EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER THAT THIS IS ILLEGAL? ANSWER, THE SECRETARY REASSURED THE FOREIGN MINISTER THAT THE U.S. POSITION ON THIS MATTER REMAINS UNCHANGED.

NOW, AS FAR AS THE FORM OF DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGES, I AM NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO GO INTO THAT.

2. FOLLOWING ARE ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS TAKEN AT NOON BRIEFING JUNE 6, AND POSTED IN THE DEPARTMENT ON JUNE 7:
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PAGE 05 STATE 144728

Q. WHAT ARE THE SAUDI AND IRANIAN FINANCIAL STAKES
IN ZAIRE?

A. THIS QUESTION SHOULD BE ANSWERED BY THE SAUDIS
AND IRANIANS.

Q. WHAT DID THE MEETING YESTERDAY BETWEEN THE
SECRETARY AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE OSHKOSH TRUCK
CO. CONCERN?

A. THE COMPANY WISHED TO REVIEW WITH THE SECRETARY
THE QUESTION OF LICENSES FOR THE EXPORT TO LIBYA OF
400 HEAVY DUTY OSHKOSH TRUCK TRACTORS. VANCE

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